

GODZILLA™

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



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FROM  
TOHO PRODUCTIONS'  
FAMED MOVIE  
SERIES--

NOW! THE KING OF  
MONSTERS GOES  
FOR BROKE!

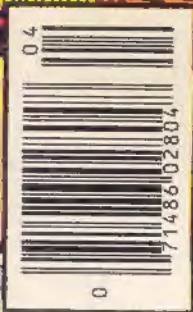
# GODZILLA

## OF THE MONSTERS



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Eons past, a monstrous hybrid of land and marine reptiles was sealed into a state of suspended animation, slumbering through the fall of dinosaurs and the rise of man. But, awakened by an undersea nuclear test, the creature returned to life — now breathing the fires of radiation...

Stan Lee  
PRESENTS: **GODZILLA™ KING OF THE MONSTERS!**

# THE FATE OF LAS VEGAS

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EDITOR

**BOULDER DAM:**  
A MONOLITHIC FEAT OF  
ENGINEERING SET ON THE  
NEVADA-ARIZONA BORDER,  
DESIGNED TO FOREVER  
CONTAIN THE RAGING  
MIGHT OF THE COLORADO  
RIVER.

THUS FAR, THE DAM  
HAS DONE ITS JOB  
FOR DECADES...

... BUT HOW  
LONG CAN IT WITH-  
STAND THE RAG-  
ING MIGHT OF A  
MONSTER?

KRAM

GODZILLA!  
I TELL YOU IT'S  
GODZILLA!!



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INDEED. BUT WHY DOES GODZILLA POUND AND CLAW AT THE ENORMOUS DAM? IS HE STILL ANGERED BY HIS FIGHT WITH THE GIANT ROBOT CALLED RED RONIN? \*

MAN, OH, MAN!  
WAIT'LL GEORGE  
AND EDNA GET A  
LOAD OF THESE  
SHOTS!

IT'S A  
MIRAGE! IT'S  
GOTTA BE! THE  
DESERT--THE HEAT!

\*IF YOU MISSED IT LAST ISSUE, YOU MISSED  
NOTHING LESS THAN A MARVEL MILESTONE-- ARCHIE.

OR, BEING AMPHIBIOUS BY  
NATURE AND HAVING WANDERED  
THE VAST AMERICAN DESERT  
FOR TWO DAYS, IS GODZILLA  
MERELY SEEKING WATER?

WE SHALL  
NEVER TRULY  
KNOW...  
BUT IF IT'S  
WATER HE  
WANTS, HE  
GETS FAR  
MORE THAN  
EVEN A MON-  
STER COULD  
BARGAIN FOR.

SPOOM

BOULDER  
DAM...  
EXPLODES!

M  
R  
A  
W  
W  
W



THERE IS FRENZIED CONFUSION NOW, A TURMOIL OF SWIRLING FLURY AS THE LONG-BOTTLED RIVER SEEKS TO FILL THOSE SPACES NATURE HAS OFFERED...AND MAN HAS DENIED.



GODZILLA IS TRAPPED IN THE VIOLENT NEW FLOW, HELPLESSLY SWEEPED THROUGH MOUNTAINOUS GORGES...

...WASHED DOWN ROCKY STEPPES...



...AND DRIVEN ONWARD, EVER ONWARD ACROSS THE VAST NEVADA DESERT.



MEERAAH

...TUMBLED OVER SMALL TOWNS BARELY EXISTING AS LAST STOPS FOR GAS...

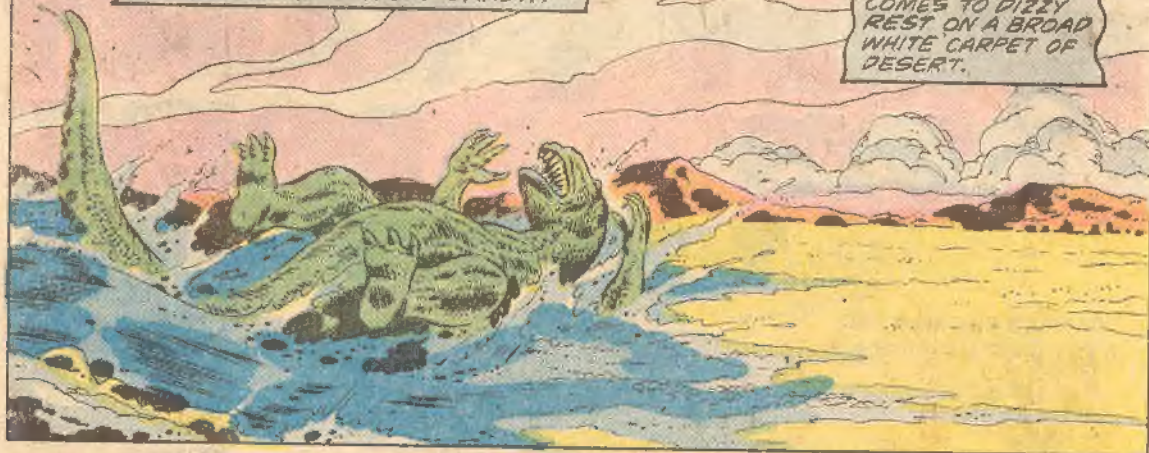


MILE AFTER MILE, HE FIGHTS THE BERSERK FLOOD, BUT ALL IN VAIN--FINDING, AT LAST, AN ELEMENTAL POWER GREATER THAN HIS OWN!

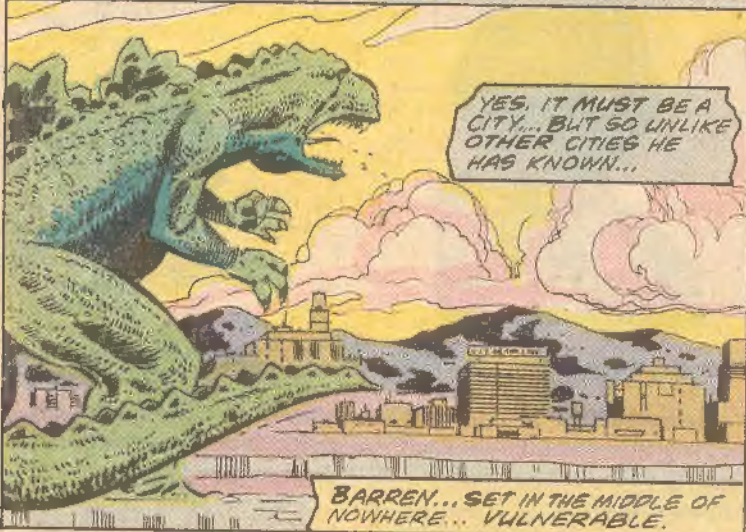


... UNTIL, FINALLY, THE SURGING WATERS  
DISSIPATE, THE LAST ANGRY FOAM  
SWALLOWED BY GREEDY SAND...

... AND GODZILLA  
COMES TO DIZZY  
REST ON A BROAD  
WHITE CARPET OF  
DESERT.



HE RISES... LOOKS OUT AT... SOMETHING. WHAT? A CITY?



YES, IT MUST BE A  
CITY... BUT SO UNLIKE  
OTHER CITIES HE  
HAS KNOWN...

BARREN... SET IN THE MIDDLE OF  
NOWHERE... VULNERABLE.

SHOULD HE ENTER THE CITY?  
OR SIMPLY MOVE ON? DOES IT  
REALLY  
MATTER?



DOES HE  
EVEN CARE WHAT CITY THIS IS?

LAS VEGAS:  
WHERE HOPES ARE  
EVER BORN... AND  
DREAMS OFTEN DIE.



FOR EXAMPLE, HERE IN THE VERY  
LAST GAMBLING CASINO AT THE  
FAR END OF THE VEGAS STRIP,  
AMIDST SWIRLING SLOTS AND TUM-  
BLING DICE...



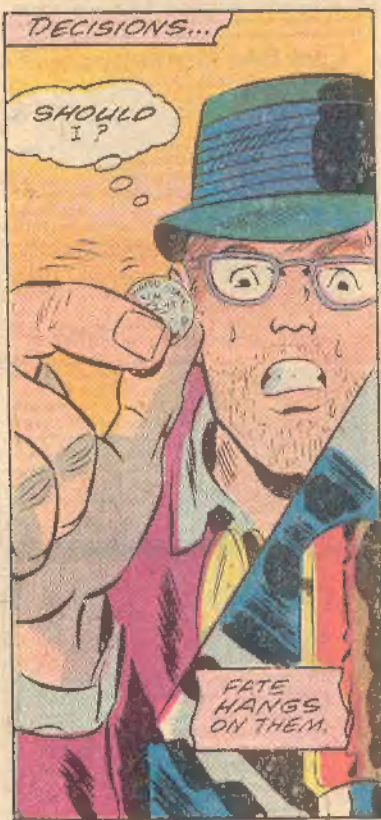
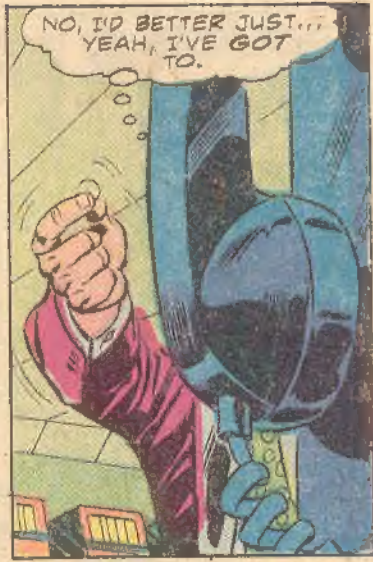
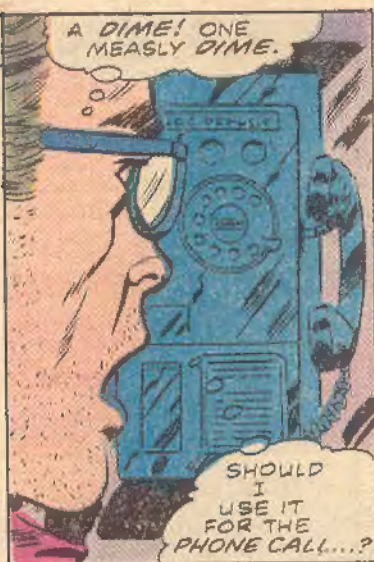
... ONE SUCH  
BRIGHT DREAM  
NEARS ITS  
TWILIGHT.

WITNESS WINSLOW BEDDIT, WHO EN-  
TERED LAS VEGAS WITH PLENTY, BUT  
WHO NOW WALKS AWAY FROM  
THE TABLES TO THE END  
OF THE LINE, HOLDING  
ON TO BUT A SHRED  
OF HIMSELF...



WORKED MY  
WAY FROM ONE END OF THE STRIP TO THE  
OTHER, AND WHAT HAVE I GOT TO SHOW  
FOR IT? THE LAST DIME TO MY NAME





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



THE REACTIONS TO ROB'S RETURN FROM AWESOME POWER ARE MANY AND VARIED. TAMARA HASHIOKA IS JOYOUSLY ELATED...

OH, ROB! THANK GOODNESS YOU WERE NOT HURT!

YES, BUT YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN INJURED, ROBERT, AND I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER THAT.

ROB'S GRANDFATHER, DR TAKIGUCHI, IS STERNLY FORGIVING...

RED RONIN IS IMPASSIVELY MUTE...



AWRIGHT, THAT DOES IT!

AND DUM DUM DUGAN IS BERSERK WITH RAGE.

YOU BLASTED, BLOCK-HEADED LITTLE BRAT! I GOT A GOOD MIND TO TAN YER BUTT TWICE ITS SIZE!

YOU DISOBEYED STRICT ORDERS BY CLIMBIN' INTO THAT ROBOT-- AN' I WANNA KNOW WHY!!

WHY?! BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO KILL GODZILLA! WASN'T IT ENOUGH THAT I GOT RID OF HIM-- STOPPED HIM FROM HURTING ANYONE--OR GETTING HURT!?!

ME AN' RED RONIN-- WE'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO IT, YOU KNOW! WHAT'S SO WRONG ABOUT THAT?!

HUH? WHY YOU LITTLE WHIP-PERSNAPPER.

ROBERT DOES HAVE A POINT, MR. DUGAN. HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN COAX RED RONIN TO PERFORM. AND EVEN THOUGH HE IS JUST A BOY, WE COULD CERTAINLY HAVE MANY WORSE GUARDIANS OF SUCH A RESPONSIBILITY.

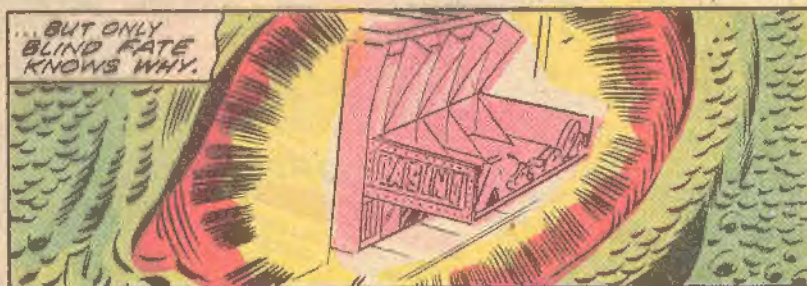
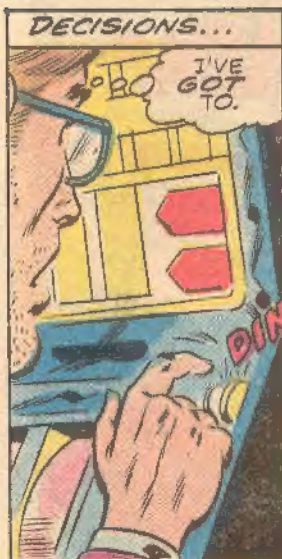
BESIDES, THERE IS LITTLE WE CAN DO ABOUT IT.

LITTLE WE CAN DO --?! FOR ONE THING, WE CAN DO WITHOUT THAT BLASTED GIANT ROBOT, PERIOD!

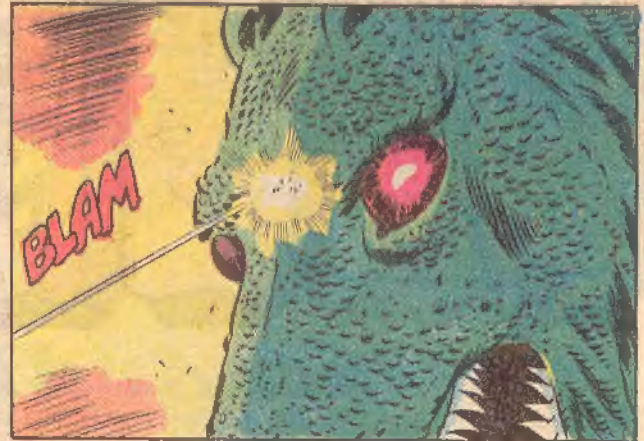
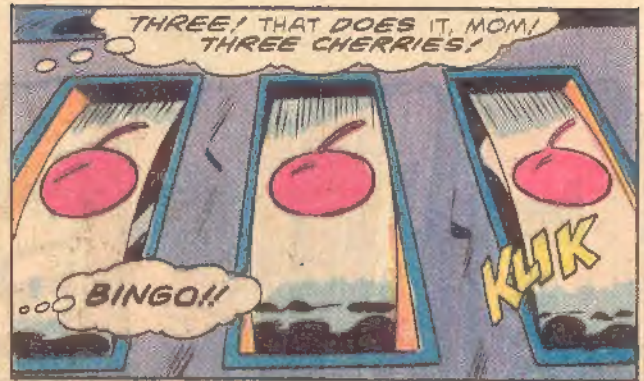
ANY HUNK O'JUNK THAT WON'T WORK FOR ANYONE BUT A SNOT-NOSED PLINK AIN'T WORTH BEANS!

Y'UNNER-STAND? NO MORE ROBOT! AN' THAT'S AN ORDER!

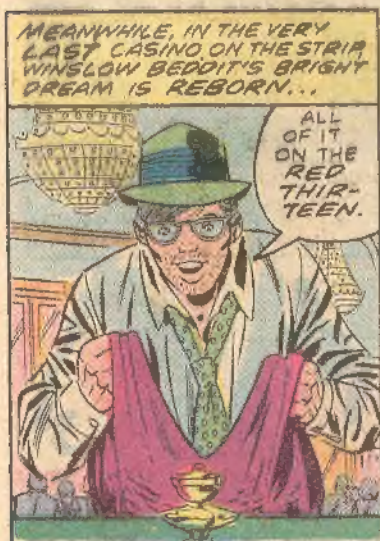










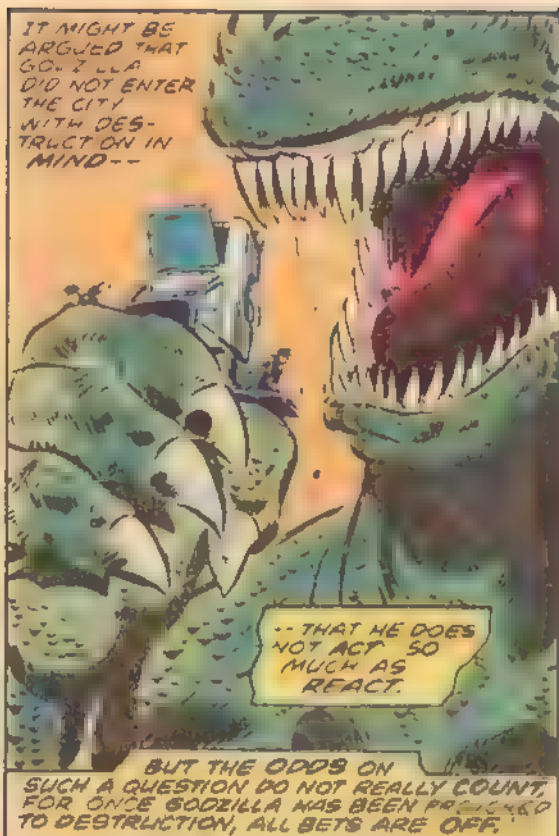






LAUNCHING AN ONSLAUGHT OF FURY AND DESTRUCTION ON THE LAKES OF WHICH LAS VEGAS HAS NEVER SEEN...

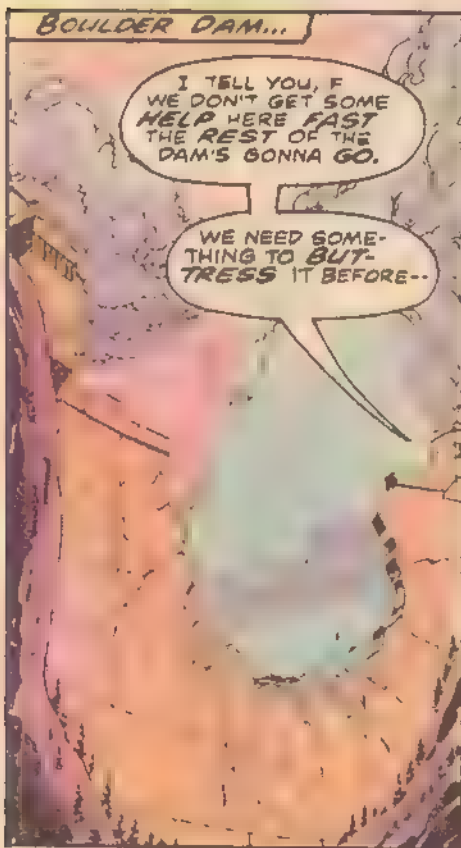
AT LEAST, NOT ON THIS SCALE



IT MIGHT BE ARGUED THAT GODZILLA DID NOT ENTER THE CITY WITH DESTRUCTION IN MIND--

-- THAT HE DOES NOT ACT SO MUCH AS REACT.

BUT THE ODDS ON SUCH A QUESTION DO NOT REALLY COUNT, FOR ONCE GODZILLA HAS BEEN PROMPTED TO DESTRUCTION, ALL BETS ARE OFF.



Boulder Dam...

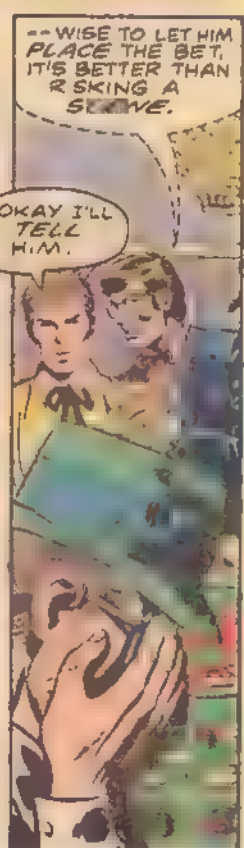
I TELL YOU, IF WE DON'T GET SOME HELP HERE FAST THE REST OF THE DAM'S GONNA GO.

WE NEED SOMETHING TO BUTTRESS IT BEFORE--



BUT IT IS FAR TOO LATE FOR SUCH MEASURES GODZILLA HAS IRREPARABLY WEAKENED THE STRUCTURE

AND NOW THE BOTTOM HALF OF THE DAM FALLS UNDER THE RAGING COLORADO.



-- WISE TO LET HIM PLACE THE BET, IT'S BETTER THAN RISKING A SLAVE.

OKAY I'LL TELL HIM.



THE PIT BOSS HAS AUTHORIZED ME TO COVER YOUR BET... AS SOON AS WE COUNT ALL THE DIMS.

AND WINSLOW BEDDIT SURGES TO ECSTASY.

Y'HEAR THAT, MOM? WE GOT IT!

SAN DIEGO: A SMALL CRAFT ROCKETS DOWN FROM THE HOVERING HELI-CARRIER "BEHEMOTH"...

MUST BE GABE. WONDER WHAT HE WANTS.

DUM-DUM! BOULDER DAM-- OR HOOVER DAM-- OR WHAT-- EVER THEY CALL IT-- JUST BUSTED WIDE OPEN!

T FIGGERS. GODZILLA?

YEAH. WITNESSES DESCRIBED A "GIANT GREEN MONSTER."

THEN LET'S MOVE-- IF THE HELI-CARRIER'S IN GOOD ENOUGH SHAPE.

NOW LISTEN, AN' LISTEN GOOD! I WANT YA TO SHACKLE THAT KID TO A SATURDAY MORNING TV SET OR SOMETHIN'.

I DON'T CARE WHAT YA DO, BUT JUST KEEP HIM AWAY FROM THAT OVERGROWN TIN CAN YA CALL RED ROMAN.

HOW IS THE HELI-CARRIER ANYWAY, JONES?

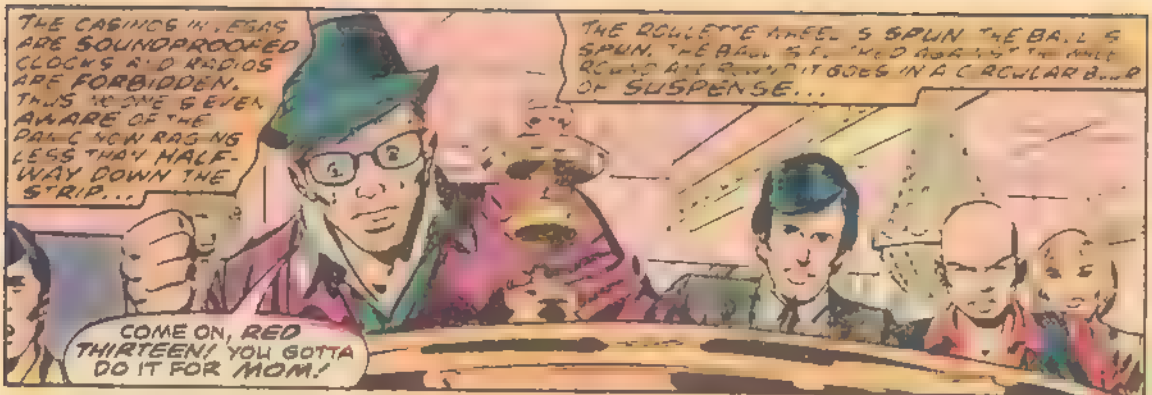
HOWARDS SAYS IT'LL MOVE-- BUT NOT VERY FAST.

THAT FIGGERS TOO. LET'S GO.

UNNOTICED, LITTLE ROB STEAMS AND SCHEMES.

MY MONEY! I LEFT HALF MY MONEY IN THERE!!





THE CASINOS IN LAS VEGAS ARE SOUNDPROOFED. CLOCKS AND RADIOS ARE FORBIDDEN. THIS IS ONE EVEN AWARE OF THE PACE NOW RAGING LESS THAN HALF-WAY DOWN THE STRIP...

THE ROULETTE WHEEL'S SPUN. THE BALL'S SPUN. THE BALL'S FLYING AGAINST THE WHEEL. ROUNDS ARE ROLLING IT GOES IN A CIRCULAR BURR OF SUSPENSE...

COME ON, RED THIRTEEN! YOU GOTTA DO IT FOR MOM!



THE SECOND SURGE OF THE MIGHTY COLORADO FOLLOWS IN THE WAKE OF THE FIRST..

IT REACHES THE WTE WHERE SCORLLA CAME TO DIZZY REST

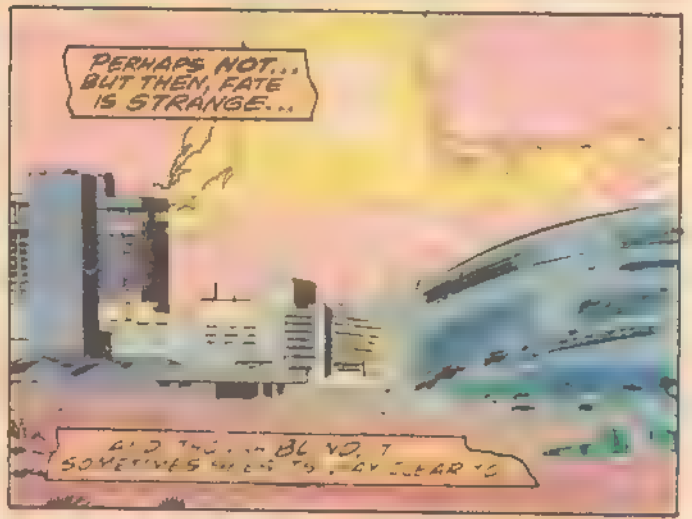
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IT'S NO USE, I TELL YOU!

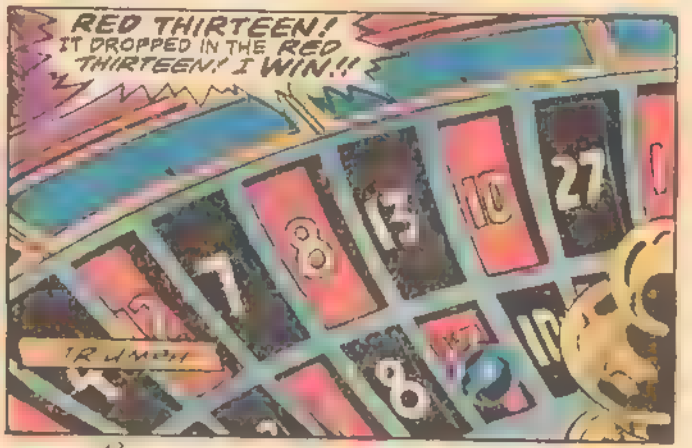
MOOOO

NOTHING CAN TAKE THAT THING DOWN!!



PERHAPS NOT.. BUT THEN, FATE IS STRANGE..

DID THE... BLVD, T... SOMETIMES... TO... CLEAR TO



RED THIRTEEN! IT DROPPED IN THE RED THIRTEEN! I WIN!!

TRUMP





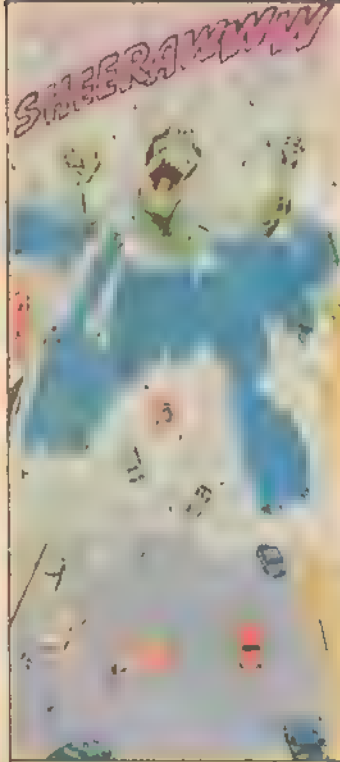
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WINSLOW BEDDIT, THE ALLTIME PROVERBIAL LOSER, HAS FINALLY WON IT BIG.



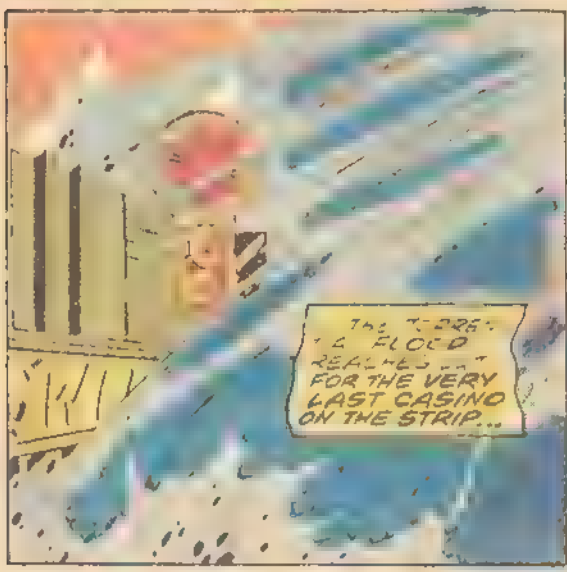
BUT AS THE FRUITS OF LADY LUCK ARE SWEEP ACROSS THE TABLE...



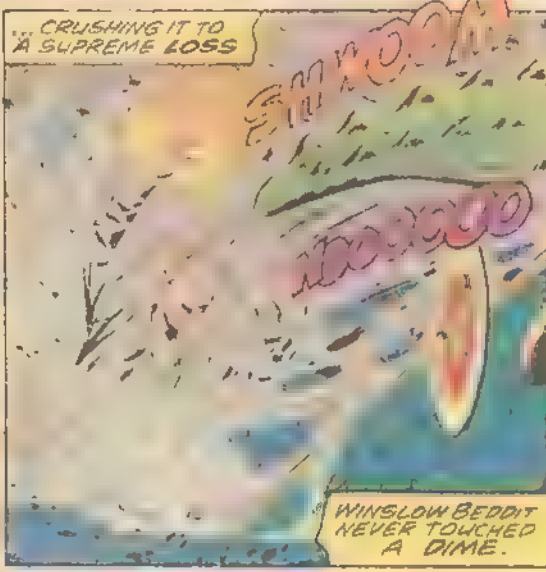
A MONSTER OF BIZARRE FATE IS SWEEP DOWN THE STRIP



AND AS TREMBLING HANDS REACH FOR THE BIG WINNINGS OF HIGH STAKES...



THE TIDE OF FLOOD REACHES FOR THE VERY LAST CASINO ON THE STRIP...



CRUSHING IT TO A SUPREME LOSS

WINSLOW BEDDIT NEVER TOUCHED A DIME.



GODZILLA RISES ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY, UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE VENGEANCE OF WATER... BUT SWIFTLY RETALIATING WITH FIRE.



DECISIONS! SHOULD HE RE-ENTER THE CITY AND CONTINUE HIS DESTRUCTION?



FOR A MOMENT HE PAUSES, PERHAPS PONDERING...

...BUT THEN HE RETURNS AWAY, AND MOVES ON-WARD ACROSS THE DESERT SANDS. HE IS TIRED OF LAS VEGAS...



...TIRED OF DECISIONS.

**EPILOGUE:** THUS HAVE TWO INDIVIDUALS WORKED THEIR WAYS DOWN THE LAS VEGAS STRIP EACH ON A JOURNEY OF DESTRUCTION... ONE DESTROYING BUILDINGS, WEAPONS, AND VEHICLES... AND THE OTHER DESTROYING HIS SOUL.

STRIPPED OF EVERYTHING, MOM, ALL GONE... WASHED AWAY.



WAIT! ALL EXCEPT THIS DIME--A SINGLE DIME. I'LL BET IT'S AN OMEN!



BET IT'S THE VERY SAME DIME--THE LAST DIME I HAD TO MY NAME--AND NOW ITS GIVING ME A SECOND CHANCE!

BUT THIS TIME I WON'T WASTE IT... I SWEAR I WON'T!



THIS TIME I'LL USE IT FOR THE PHONE CALL.





Star  
Lee  
Presents

# MARVEL® BULLPEN BULLETINS

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STAN'S SOAPBOX

## THIS IS IT!

The world-shaking announcement you've been waiting for!



If you've ever wanted to draw your own comic strip, or even if you just wanted to learn the inside story of how it's done, here's where you get your wish! Even as you read these wondrous words with your senses reeling, "How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way" is going on sale throughout the nation! It's the only book of its kind which specializes exclusively in showing you how to draw superhero comics—and it shows you how to do it Marvel style! Designed and illustrated by Big John Buscema, it's a visual delight which will dazzle your eyes while it answers virtually any question you could ever dream up about drawing your own comic strip! As for the text, it's written by yours truly—but don't let that turn you off—you'll be so busy drooling over the illustrations that not even my little literary lunacy will bother you! And now here's the best part! You can get your happy little hands on "How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way" for only \$8.95 a copy! But please, don't embarrass us with your useful expressions of undying gratitude! Just promise one thing—after you've read the book (published by good ol' Simon & Schuster, and on sale at better book stores everywhere), and after you've learned our secrets and become the artist you've always longed to be, promise you won't go to work for our competition! And now, as you prepare for the mad dash to your neighborhood book store, I'll head for the hills before you get the idea that I'm trying to sell you something! Or, as the noble Romans might have put it: In hoc signo vinces!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! When you stroll down the hallowed halls here at mighty Marvel, there's a better than average chance you'll see something out of the ordinary. It could be a writer and artist throwing punches and kicks as they discuss how they're going to handle one of the quieter moments in the latest POWER

MAN; it could be a shouting match between two stalwarts of the editorial department over whether Magneto is pronounced with a long or short "a"; or it could even be our exemplary editor-in-chief ARCHIE GOODWIN doing one of his famous pratfalls which have earned him applause and more than a few odd stares at various insignificant social gatherings. Let's face it, it takes quite a bit to surprise the average ambler down the corridors of Marvel. But there are some things that stop even our jaded armadillos in their tracks... like rounding a corner in the office and suddenly coming face-to-face with Howard the Duck! Or Spider-Woman. Or Captain America. In the flesh. It *actually* happens, although for a few moments you always wonder if you've been working too late or too long. How does this come about? Well, mostly through the hard work and effort of our publicist, Nifty NANCY ALLEN and her assistant, Ravishing RONI POLLOCK. They're the folks in charge of lining up actors and models to impersonate our coveting characters at a multitude of varied functions, all the way from shopping center openings to state fairs. And just to make certain that their players are correctly costumed, Nancy or Roni usually rush them over to us comic book types for a final opinion on how they look. Hence, sometimes when we least expect it, we suddenly find ourselves eyeball-to-eyeball with a personality right off our printed pages! It's sort of neat... once you get over the shock. But find out for yourselves. Keep an eye and an ear on local advertising. There's no telling when your favorite Marvel superstar may be making a personal appearance; Nancy and Roni are working full-time to bring them your way!

ITEM! You know, one of our favorite TV shows was STAR TREK, and one of our biggest disappointments was that the rights

to do the show as a comicbook series have always been tied up. Still, we've had the itch to do a non-superhero oriented s-f strip, and even our sensational STAR WARS book hasn't totally satisfied it. In fact, judging from the cards and letters we're getting, STAR WARS' success has sparked a demand for more. So, we've set Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH and Titanite TOM SUTTON to work on a science-fiction special for MARVEL PREMIERE #41. It's called SEEKER 3000, and introduces a set of characters forced to depart a doomed earth and find new salvation for humankind in the stars. We think it's out of the ordinary comics fare, and we're more than just a bit excited about it. So set aside the necessary thirty-five cents; it's due your way this January. We're betting you'll find it money well spent!

ITEM! Most of this month's comings and goings seem to be in Vice President of Operations, Jolly SOLLY BRODSKY's department. Sol's got a new assistant, Bouncing BOB MARCZAK, to help keep our torrent of special merchandising projects (you know, all those books, records, cups, and other products that feature our characters) flowing smoothly. But the Jolly One spent a few misty-eyed moments what with his secretary, Liting LINDA TAXEL, abandoning him for a special project of her own, namely the imminent arrival of her first child. Fortunately, Florence FLORENCE TUMMINELLO has stepped neatly into the ranks to fill the vacancy. So, a big "welcome" to you, Florence, and to Bob, plus an equally big "we'll miss you and best wishes on the new addition to the family" to Linda!

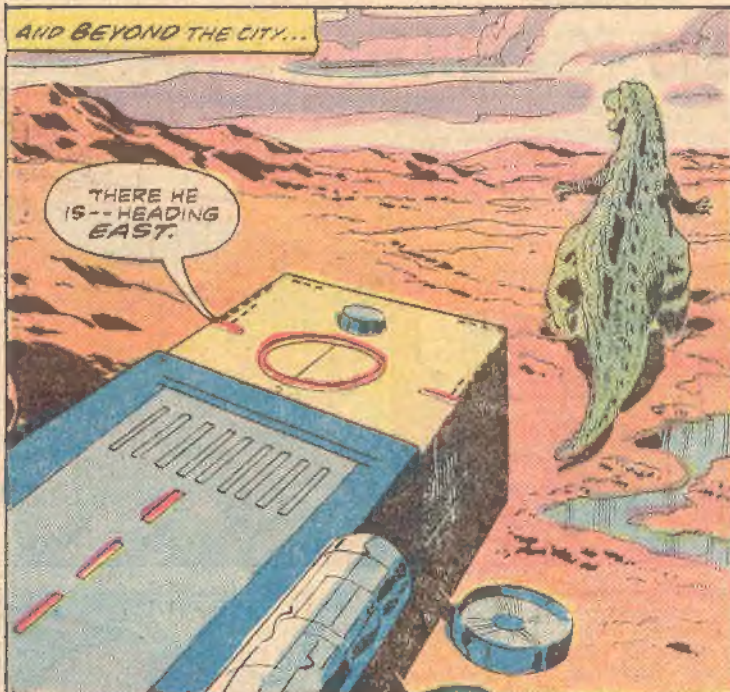
ITEM! If a lot of large "ooooohs and aaaaahs" have been echoing out onto Madison Avenue from 575, it may just be because the bolsterous Bullpen has started getting a look at some of the original art done by Big JOHN BUSCEMA for the up and coming CONAN THE BARBARIAN comic strip. We don't want to say too much about it here, because Rascally ROY THOMAS, who just happens to be the writer of the strip as well as editor, scribe, and guiding light of all our Conan material, has prepared a special article on the subject for issue #27 of SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, which also just happens to be going on sale about this time. The strip, which will run both daily and Sunday, should be appearing sometime in early Spring. Like SPIDER-MAN and HOWARD THE DUCK, it's being distributed by the nice folks of the Register and Tribune Syndicate. We don't have any way of knowing yet which newspapers will carry it, but it might not hurt to ask your local paper if they are considering it. If they're not, your inquiry might just sway them into doing so. Grom will thank you for it!



MAKE MINE  
MARVEL!



AND BEYOND THE CITY...





THIS IS THE OPERATOR.  
THAT WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL  
ONE DOLLAR AND THIRTY-FIVE  
CENTS, SIR.

UH...  
REVERSE  
THE CHARGES,  
OPERATOR.

THIS IS THE OPERATOR.  
THAT WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL  
ONE DOLLAR AND THIRTY-FIVE  
CENTS, SIR.

UH...  
REVERSE  
THE CHARGES,  
OPERATOR.

DECISIONS:  
WINSLOW BEDDIT  
REGAINS THE VERY  
LAST DIME TO HIS  
NAME...

A close-up illustration of a hand in a white shirt with a dark cuff, inserting a coin into a slot. The slot is part of a blue machine with a yellow sign that reads "COIN RETURN". The background is a solid red color.

...AND LEAVES THE VERY LAST CASINO ON THE DEMOLISHED STRIP.

WELL, IT'LL BE A LONG WALK...

LUCKY

...AND LEAVES THE VERY LAST CASINO ON THE DEMOLISHED STRIP.

WELL, IT'LL BE A LONG WALK...

LUCKY

-- MAYBE I SHOULD MAKE ONE LAST STOP IN RENO

"AFTER ALL,  
MOTHER'S  
COUNTING  
ON ME."



THE CREATION OF A  
COLOSSAL NEW  
MONSTER PERHAPS  
EVEN MIGHTIER THAN  
GODZILLA HIMSELF--

# YETRIGAR!